

CT-63

PRESTON

18th. c.

Reported In its present form this large two story frame house is an apparent alteration of the original structure. It is ~~reported~~ that the first floor wall levels are of log construction, now sheathed with random width flush board siding. The second floor level is of frame construction and is somewhat deeper than the lower level, protruding slightly from the front and rear walls. At each end of the house stand single exterior chimneys. The interior retains a mixture of both eighteenth and nineteenth century detail.

0500635204

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Calvert TOWN VICINITY Preston STREET NO.		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY CT-63	
ORIGINAL OWNER Parran Family (?) ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER Mr. Claude Turner PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Shiplap siding & shingle NO. OF STORIES 2 with small attic		2. NAME Preston DATE OR PERIOD c. 1720-1780 STYLE colonial ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
OPEN TO PUBLIC NO <p>This old home sits on a high knoll and commands a lovely view of the Patuxent River. Its construction dates from several periods. The first floor is reputed to be squared logs, now covered on the ends with beaded clapboards and on the front and rear with beaded shiplap siding. The second storey is shingle covered clapboard and has a very gently sloping A-roof. The house is 5 bays long and one room deep with a central door. All of the windows are 6/6 sashes. There is an exterior brick fireplace at either end of the house separated from the wall above the first storey level which indicates that the house probably was only one storey and was raised to its present height in about 1780. Both of these fireplaces have heavy fieldstone bases. There are 2 small one-storey wings coming off from the main house. One of these has a huge fieldstone fireplace. The second floor of the house overhangs the first storey by about 3 inches on both front and back.</p> <p>The interior has much old panelling. There is vertical beaded sheathing in the stairhall with a simple staircase with a chamfered newel. The mantels all date from the Federal period.</p> <p>There are 2 out-buildings with vertical siding, one of log and one shingled, one which contains old store counters and shelves.</p> <p>This is a very interesting and old property and well worthy of note.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE very good Endangered Interior Exterior			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)			
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		7. PHOTOGRAPH 9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <p>Paul A. Brinkman</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD 7/10/67</p>	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Preston

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Turner Road

CITY, TOWN

Lusby

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Calvert

STATE

MD

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John T. CraneTelephone #: 326-3515

STREET & NUMBER

Turner Road

CITY, TOWN

Lusby

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

On the interior one can see that the north parlor has four walls made of V-notched logs. They are wide logs varying in width up to 11". This room measures about 15' x 17' and is high ceilinged. In the room above the log walls extend c. 32" above the floor. The first floor room may have been altered in its plan by the cutting through of a door in the west wall which seems squeezed in between the two windows which vent that side. There was a window in the south wall and a door is the only vent in the east wall. The room is heated by a fireplace in the middle of the north wall which is served by a double shouldered chimney. A roof line can be seen on the north side of this chimney which suggests that there was a single or 1½ story kitchen that preceeded the present kitchen. The present kitchen has a post-and-beam frame made of hewn materials. Stump supports can be seen beneath it.

The height of the ceiling and other details much as the choice of trees suggests that this was meant to be a substantial, if basic, dwelling as opposed to the low ceiling log houses used as slave quarters.

The north and south parlors are connected by a hall. It contains entrances at opposite ends. The west door contains beveled lights and a transom. There is a stairs which is nicely decorated with a beaded panel enclosure and a newel and support post that have champfers.

That elegance was important to the early occupants of Preston is made most evident by the south parlor. It is entered by a door in the north wall, the chimney and fireplace occupy the south wall. The east and west walls contain two 6/6 windows each. The window frames, chair rail and mantel are all of a similar design and its detail suggest more than average "county carpenter" involvement. The fluted pilasters and trusses in the mantle could be late Georgian but the diagonal fluting on the edge of the mantel shelf is decidedly Federal.

The exterior corners of this wing are exposed for repair purposes and a post-and-beam frame was observed. Hewn uprights and sills are joined by angle braces fixed by mortise-tenon trunnel. The east, west, and south facades are covered with beaded ship lap siding that varies in width. The siding facing the river (west) may be replacement material; it is beaded differently. All of the siding is attached with cut nails (no wrought nails were observed anywhere in the house)

A two story wing was added to the east c. 1909 and another wing in more recent times. The Victorian elements such as the scrollwork support posts on the porch could be 1909 decoration or it could conceivably be late nineteenth century.

As this house commanded a large farm there are quite a few barns, tenant houses, etc., including another log dwelling near Helen's Creek.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CT-63

PERIOD**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Many periods are represented by this structure as it has evolved over quite a few years. It is believed to have begun as a one and a half story log dwelling that was later added onto with both 1½ and double story frame additions. Structural analysis bears this belief out.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY Description and significance statements: Wayne Nield

NAME / TITLE

Form Compiled by:

Merry Stinson

March 1978

ORGANIZATION

architectural consultant

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 5 Box 262 B

757-2815

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Md. 21401

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

There are some buildings immediately behind (east) the house and one of them is a log construction. It is a meathouse made of lap joined logs laid close to each other with only a couple of inches in between. These spaces are filled with planks instead of normal chinking. The building is 12' deep and 11' wide and there is 7' between the boxed-in eaves and the ground.

The interior contains evidence of smoking process. The building is entered by a single door that is a batten door with forged loop end strap hinges and a very large wooden box-lock.

M. Stinson

Md. Hall of Records Chancery Papers #1845

Elizabeth S. (wife of John)
1819 Fitzhugh vs John Rousby Plater
Round Pond Plains, Eltonhead Manor, Preston (creek),
Saltworks Landing

Bennett Sollers:

John Fitzhugh separated from his family in Baltimore 1813 and came to live on Preston after 1814 (Fitzhugh) "built several log houses"

Peter Cornelius, negro freeman, tenant on farm: pays 1/3 of crop yearly to Fitzhugh

John Tucker: John Fitzhugh lives in a log house with a stone chimney 16' "granery" & small log kitchen attached to house

Charles Gantt (married E.S. Fitzhugh's sister)
40' barn blew down: Fitzhugh built all other houses: dwelling, kitchen, and granery with plank floors, two 60' log barns, two tenant houses; all timber came from Preston. Preston was worked in 1813 & 1814 by Wm. K. Fitzhugh (son of John & E.S.) "the crops were abandoned and destroyed by the British having possession of the Estate during the late war with great Britain."

Bennett Sollers: "at the close of the late war there was no house on the farm of any sort whatever"

bill of complaint dismissed March 30, 1825

E.S. Fitzhugh got land upon death of father Richard Parran

2 tracts:

1. begin. E. side Preston's Creek at Morgan's or the Saltworks Landing...289a.
2. "one lot of level or flat land called Prestons..." begin. Patuxent River up cove of Preston's Creek opposite the Saltworks Landing 171 3/4 acres

also Lots #2 & 5 from R. Parran's estate

#2: 16a. on Patuxent River
#5: 46a. on Mearses Creek

also 98a. on Preston's Creek

...mentions Parran's old mill

Total 620 3/4 acres sold by John Fitzhugh to John Rousby Plater (1808)

when Richard Parran died, E.S. Parran's guardians married her off to J.F. when she was only 16. He took all her personal property and sold her land to Plater.

E.S.F. stated: "John Fitzhugh had long practiced upon her many acts of wanton Cruelty and Brutality to compel her to join in a conveyance..." when she refused he took off for Calvert County, sold the land to Plater, and lived on the land himself.

E.S.F. appealed to the general assembly for "relief"



CT-~~4~~63

Preston ~~on~~ 
W.

W. Nield
SUM. 77



CT. ~~63~~ 63
Preston ~~63~~
E.

W. Field
sum. 77



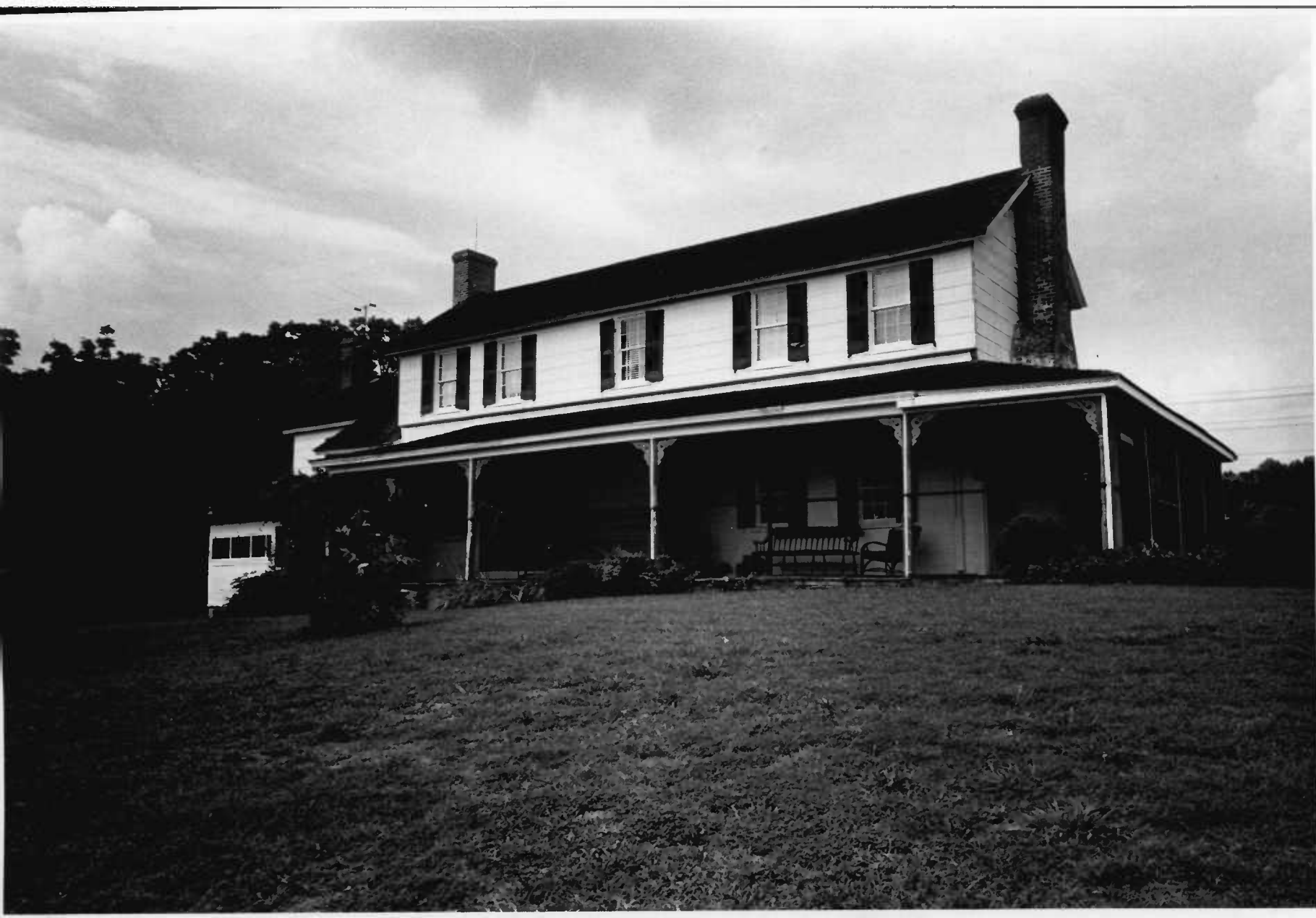
CT-~~4163~~

Preston ~~meat here~~

meat here

S.W.

W. Field
SUN. 77





CT-63

